

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An auction system, comprising:

a plurality of user terminals; and

a server connected to said user terminals through a network, said server being configured as and having an auction site formed therein for receiving bids from said user terminals and determining a successful bidder for an auction commodity based on the received bids;

said server being configured to exhibiting, in said auction site thereof, a delivery charge bearing object commodity which is to be sold by a dealer and with which part or all of a delivery charge for the auction commodity for which a user is determined as a successful bidder is to be borne so that the delivery charge bearing object commodity may be sold in combination with the auction commodity in response to a request from one of said user terminals;

wherein the amount of the delivery charge borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

2. (Currently Amended) An auction system, comprising:

a plurality of personal seller terminals and a plurality of participant terminals;
and

an auction server connected to said personal seller terminals and said participant terminals through a network;

said auction server being configured to: having an auction information reception-storage function for (a) receive receiving and store storing auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals, an auction information transmission-function for (b)transmit transmitting the auction commodity information to any of said participant

terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal, ~~and an auction function for~~
(c) receive receiving bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction
commodity information and determining ~~determining~~ a successful bidder based on the bidding
information;

~~said auction server further having a dealer information reception storage~~
~~function for~~ (d) receive receiving, from a dealer terminal associated with owned by a
predetermined dealer and connected to said auction server through said network, and store
storing dealer provision information ~~including dealer commodity information which is~~
~~information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer~~ and delivery charge information
~~which is information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of~~
~~the person who purchases the dealer commodity;~~

wherein:

~~said auction information transmission function~~

(b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the dealer provision
information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant
terminal;

~~said auction function~~

(c) receiving bidding information includes receiving purchase desired
commodity information corresponding to the dealer provision information transmitted from
said participant terminals together with the bidding information; and

wherein:

said dealer commodity information including information regarding a
commodity to be sold by said dealer;

said delivery charge information including information regarding the
charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer
commodity; and

the amount of the delivery charge borne by the dealer is dependent
upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

3. (Currently Amended) An auction system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said auction server is further configured to (f) classify ~~has an information classification function for classifying~~ the auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals based on the auction commodity information and classifying the dealer provision information, including the dealer commodity information from said dealer terminal based on the dealer commodity information, and a (g) link registration function for linking the auction commodity information and the dealer provision information based on the classifications of by said auction commodity information classification function, ~~and said auction information transmission function~~ wherein (b) transmitting includes transmitting ~~transmits~~ the auction commodity information and the dealer provision information linked to each other ~~by said link registration function~~ to the participant terminal.

4. (Original) An auction system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the auction commodity information regarding each auction commodity includes information for specifying a classification of the auction commodity, and the dealer commodity information regarding the dealer commodity included in the dealer provision information includes information for specifying a classification of the dealer commodity.

5. (Currently Amended) An auction system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said auction server is further configured to ~~has a delivery information reception storage function for~~ (h) receive ~~receiving~~ and store ~~storing~~ distribution information of a plurality of predetermined distributors from distributor terminals associated with ~~owned by~~ said distributors and connected to said auction server through said network, ~~and said auction information reception storage function~~ (i) transmits, when auction commodity information is received from any of said personal seller terminals, the delivery information to the personal seller terminal and receives first distributor designation information ~~which designates one of said distributors which is entrusted with delivery of the auction commodity by the personal seller while said dealer information reception storage function~~ (j) transmits, when auction

commodity information is received from said dealer terminal, the delivery information to the personal seller terminal and receives second distributor designation information ~~which designates one of said distributors which is entrusted with delivery of the dealer commodity by the dealer~~, wherein (f) classifying ~~includes said information classification function~~ classifying the auction commodity information and the dealer provision information based on the first distributor designation information and the second distributor designation information,

~~(k) designate said first distributor designation information designates one of said distributors which is entrusted with delivery of the auction commodity by the personal seller, and~~

~~(l) designate wherein said second distributor designation information designates one of said distributors which is entrusted with delivery of the dealer commodity by the dealer .~~

6. (Currently Amended) An auction system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said auction server is further configured to ~~has a delivery information reception storage function for (m) receive receiving and store storing~~ distribution information of a predetermined distributor from a distributor terminal ~~owned by~~ associated with said distributor and connected to said auction server through said network, and ~~said auction information transmission function wherein (b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting places and transmits~~ the delivery information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal while (c) receiving includes receiving ~~said auction function receives~~ distributor designation information based on the delivery information from the participant terminal.

7. (Currently Amended) An auction system, comprising:
a plurality of personal seller terminals and a plurality of participant terminals;
and

an auction server connected to said personal seller terminals and said participant terminals through a network;

said auction server ~~being configured to having an auction information reception storage function for (a) receive receiving and store storing~~ auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals, ~~an auction information transmission function for (b) transmit transmitting~~ the auction commodity information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal, and ~~an auction function for (c) receive receiving~~ bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and ~~determine determining~~ a successful bidder based on the bidding information;

said auction server further ~~being configured to having a dealer information reception storage function for (d) receive receiving~~, from a dealer terminal ~~owned by associated with~~ a predetermined dealer and connected to said auction server through said network, and ~~store storing~~ dealer provision information including dealer commodity information ~~which is information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer and delivery charge information; which is information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity;~~ ~~said auction information reception storage function (e) transmit transmitting~~, when auction commodity information is received from any of said personal seller terminals, the dealer provision information to the personal seller terminal, whereafter ~~said auction information reception storage function (f)~~ issues a request to select one of commodities in the dealer commodity information ~~included in the dealer provision information and desired to be sold together with the auction commodity by the personal dealer~~ and then receives commodity selection information from the personal seller terminal transmitted thereto in response to the request;

wherein:

~~said auction information transmission function~~

(b) transmitting includes placing the commodity selection information into the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal;

~~said auction function~~

(c) receiving bidding information includes receiving purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the commodity selection information transmitted from said participant terminals together with the bidding information;

wherein:

said dealer commodity information includes information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer; and

said delivery charge information includes information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity;

the select one of commodities in the dealer commodity information is included in the dealer provision information and desired to be sold together with the auction commodity by the personal dealer; and

the amount of the delivery charge that is borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

8. (Original) An auction system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the commodity selection information is information for selection of one commodity.

9. (Currently Amended) An auction system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said auction server is further configured to ~~has a delivery information reception storage function for (g) receive receiving and store storing~~ distribution information of a predetermined distributor from a distributor terminal ~~owned by~~ associated with said distributor and connected to said auction server through said network, ~~and said auction information transmission function wherein (b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting places and transmits~~ the delivery information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal while (c) receiving includes receiving ~~said auction function receives~~ distributor designation information based on the delivery information from the participant terminal.

10. (Currently Amended) An auction system, comprising:

a plurality of personal seller terminals and a plurality of participant terminals;

and

an auction server connected to said personal seller terminals and said participant terminals through a network;

said auction server ~~is configured to having an auction information reception storage function for (a) receive receiving and store storing~~ auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals, ~~an auction information transmission function for (b) transmit transmitting~~ the auction commodity information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal, and ~~an auction function for (c) receive receiving~~ bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and ~~determine determining~~ a successful bidder based on the bidding information;

said auction server further ~~being configured to (d) transmit having a dealer information reception storage function for transmitting~~ the auction commodity information to a dealer terminal ~~owned by~~ associated with a predetermined dealer and connected to said auction server through said network and ~~(e) receive receiving~~ from said dealer terminal and ~~store storing~~ dealer provision information including dealer commodity information which is information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer, auction commodity designation information which designates one of the auction commodities which said dealer hopes to be purchased together with the dealer commodity and delivery charge information which is information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity;

~~said auction information transmission function~~

wherein:

(b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the dealer provision information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal; and

the amount of the delivery charge that is borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

11. (Original) An auction system as claimed in claim 10, wherein the auction commodity designation information is information which designates one of the auction commodities.

12. (Currently Amended) An auction system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said auction server is further configured to ~~has a delivery information reception storage function for (f) receive receiving and store storing~~ distribution information of a predetermined distributor from a distributor terminal ~~owned by~~ associated with said distributor and connected to said auction server through said network, and ~~said auction information transmission function~~ (b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting ~~places and transmits~~ the delivery information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal while (c) receiving includes receiving ~~said auction function receives~~ distributor designation information based on the delivery information from the participant terminal.

13. (Currently Amended) An auction system, comprising:
a plurality of personal seller terminals and a plurality of participant terminals;
an auction server connected to said personal seller terminals and said participant terminals through a network; and
said auction server being configured to ~~having an auction information reception storage function for (a) receive receiving and store storing~~ auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals, ~~an auction information transmission function~~

~~for (b) transmit transmitting~~ the auction commodity information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal, and ~~an auction function for~~ (c) receive receiving bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and ~~determine determining~~ a successful bidder based on the bidding information;

a dealer terminal owned by a predetermined dealer and connected to said auction server through said network, said dealer terminal being configured to having a dealer information transmission function for transmitting ~~(d) transmit~~ dealer provision information including dealer commodity information ~~which is information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer~~ and delivery charge information ~~which is information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity to said auction server;~~

~~said auction server further having a dealer information reception storage function for~~ (e) receive receiving and store storing the dealer provision information;

wherein: said auction information transmission function of said auction server

(b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the dealer provision information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal;

each of said participant terminals is configured to having a bidding function for transmitting ~~(f) transmit~~ purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the dealer provision information to said auction server together with the bidding information; and

(c) receiving includes said auction function of said auction server receiving the purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the dealer provision information transmitted from the participant terminal together with the bidding information;

said dealer commodity information which is information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer;

wherein:

said delivery charge information which is information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity to said auction server; and

the amount of the delivery charge that is borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

14. (Currently Amended) An auction system as claimed in claim 13, further comprising a distributor terminal ~~owned by~~ associated with a predetermined distributor and connected to said auction server through said network, ~~and~~ wherein said distributor terminal is configured to (g) transmit ~~has a delivery information transmission function for transmitting~~ delivery information of said distributor to said auction server and said auction server ~~has a delivery information reception storage function for~~ is further configured to (h) receive ~~receiving and store~~ the delivery information from said distributor terminal, ~~said auction information transmission function~~

wherein:

(b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the delivery information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal,

(f) transmitting includes ~~said bidding function of the participant terminal~~ transmitting distributor designation information based on the delivery information to said auction server together with the bidding information and the purchase desired commodity information, and

(c) receiving includes ~~said auction function of said auction server~~ receiving the distributor designation information from the participant terminal.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~An auction~~ A computer implemented method executable for causing an auction server connected to a plurality of personal seller terminals, a plurality of participant terminals and a dealer terminal owned by a predetermined dealer through a network comprising to execute:

~~an auction information reception storage process for receiving and storing auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals;~~

~~a dealer information reception storage process for receiving from said dealer terminal and storing dealer provision information including dealer commodity information which is includes information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer and delivery charge information which is information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity;~~

~~an auction information transmission process for transmitting the auction commodity information and the dealer provision information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal; and~~

~~an auction process for receiving bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the dealer provision information and determining a successful bidder based on the bidding information;~~

~~wherein the amount of the delivery charge that is borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.~~

16. (Currently Amended) A recording medium on which an auction program is stored, the auction program causing an auction server connected to a plurality of personal seller terminals, a plurality of participant terminals and a dealer terminal owned by a predetermined dealer through a network to execute:

an auction information reception storage process for receiving and storing auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals;

a dealer information reception storage process for receiving from said dealer terminal and storing dealer provision information including dealer commodity information which is includes information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer and delivery charge information which is information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity;

an auction information transmission process for transmitting the auction commodity information and the dealer provision information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal; and

an auction process for receiving bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the dealer provision information and determining a successful bidder based on the bidding information;

wherein the amount of the delivery charge that is borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.